



December 9, 2014

Merry Holliday-Hanson
Administrative Data Program
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
400 R Street, Room 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Ms. Holliday-Hanson

This letter is in response to our receipt of the Hospital Risk-Adjusted 30- day Mortality and 30- day Readmission Results by County for 2011-2012. Ridgecrest Regional Hospital scored worse than expected in stroke mortality. We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback regarding our scores.

In conducting an internal audit on these cases we focused on the 9 cases that resulted in Mortality.

- 5 of the 9 resulted in mortality off site within 30 days of discharge from Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. (3 were Caucasian females over the age of 89 while 1 was a 66 year old Caucasian with a co morbidity of cancer and 1-84 year old Caucasian male.
- 4 of the 9 resulted in mortality while at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital. (3 were Female Caucasian and over 89 years old with Present on Admission co morbidities listed with 1- 89 year old Caucasian male and all 4 patients had Do Not Resuscitate Orders on File within 24 hours of admission.)
- All 9 cases had Present on Admission indicators documented.
- All 9 cases documented that the onset of symptoms resulted in 10-24 hrs prior coming to our facility; when the window for administering rTPA is 3-4.5 hrs.
- Ridgecrest Regional is a Critical Access Hospital in a rural area with a high retiree population and the formula for calculating this report does not address this issue.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback regarding our scores.

Sincerely,



James Suver, CEO
Ridgecrest Regional Hospital